

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (previously amended) A fire fighting apparatus comprising a plurality of spray heads (5a to 5e, 6a to 6e; 5a', 5b' to 5e'), a tube system (2, 3a to 3e, 4a to 4e; 2', 3a', 3e') for leading extinguishing medium to the spray heads, a first drive gas source (9; 9') for driving the extinguishing medium at a high pressure via the tube system to the spray heads and release means (8a, 8b) for activating at least one of the spray heads, wherein:

the first drive gas source (9; 9') is coupled to an extinguishing medium source consisting essentially of a long tube (2; 2') constituting part of the tube system.

2. (previously amended) A fire fighting apparatus according to claim 1, characterized in that a plurality of second drive gas sources (10 to 12; 10' to 12') are arranged to the tube (2; 2') at predetermined distances (1) from the first gas drive sources (9; 9') along the tube (2; 2').

3. (original) A fire fighting apparatus according to claim 2, characterized in that a stop/opening valve (13 to 15; 13' to 15') for closing and opening the flow of extinguishing medium in the tube (2; 2) is arranged between individual drive gas sources (9 to 12; 9' to 12').

4. (previously amended) A fire fighting apparatus according to claim 2, characterized in that the tube (2; 2') is divided into a number of main sections (1), each containing at least one of the second drive gas sources.

5. (original) A fire fighting apparatus according to claim 4, characterized in that the drive gas sources are constituted by nitrogen bottles (9; 9') having a pressure of 30 to 400 bar.

6. (previously amended) A fire fighting apparatus according to claim 4, characterized in that the main sections (1) comprise a number of zones (A), each of them containing a group of the spray heads (5b to 5e, 6b, 6e'; 5b' to 5e').

7. (currently amended) A fire fighting apparatus according to claim 6, characterized in that the release means (8a, 8b) are arranged along the tube (2; 2') within the zones (A) for releasing a group of the spray heads (5b to 5e, 6b to 6e'; 5b' to 5e') belonging respectively to the zones.

8. (original) A fire fighting apparatus according to claim 7, characterized in that each group of spray heads (5b to 5e, 6b to 6e'; 5b' to 6e') contains a valve (7b to 7e; 7') to control at least one spray head belonging to the group (5b to 5e, 6b to 6e'; 5b' to 5e').

9. (previously amended) A fire fighting apparatus according to claim 1, characterized in that the tube system (2, 3a to 3e, 4a to 4e; 2', 3a', 3e') follows a longitudinal direction of a tunnel (1; 1').

10. (original) A fire fighting apparatus according to claim 9, characterized in that the spray heads comprise first spray heads (5b to 5e) arranged in an upper part of the tunnel (1) and second spray heads (6b to 6e) arranged in a lower part of the tunnel, whereby the first spray heads are arranged to spray mainly in the opposite direction with respect to the second spray heads.

11. (currently amended) A fire fighting apparatus according to claim 1, characterized in that the spray heads (5a to 5e, 6b to 6e; 5a' to 5e') produce a spray mist-like spray.

12. (original) a fire fighting apparatus according to claim 1, characterized in that the extinguishing medium is water-based liquid.

13. (previously amended) A fire fighting apparatus comprising a plurality of spray heads (5a to 5e, 6a to 6e; 5a', 5b' to 5e'), a tube system (2, 3a to 3e, 4a to 4e; 2', 3a', 3e') for leading extinguishing medium to the spray heads, at least one drive gas source (9 to 12; 9' to 12') for driving the extinguishing medium at a high pressure via the tube system to the spray heads and release means (8a, 8b) for activating at least one of the spray heads, wherein the at least one drive gas source (9 to 12; 9' to 12') is coupled to an extinguishing medium source which consists essentially of a long tube (2; 2') which has a length of at least two hundred meters and constitutes part of the tube system.

14. (previously amended) A fire fighting apparatus comprising a plurality of spray heads (5a to 5e, 6a to 6e; 5a', 5b' to 5e'), a tube system (2, 3a to 3e, 4a to 4e; 2', 3a', 3e') for leading extinguishing medium to the spray heads, at least one drive gas source (9 to 12; 9' to 12') for driving the extinguishing medium at a high pressure via the tube system to the spray heads and release means (8a, 8b) for activating at least one of the spray heads, wherein the at least one drive gas source (9 to 12; 9' to 12') is coupled to an extinguishing medium source which consists essentially of a long tube (2; 2') which has a length of at least about 1 km and constitutes part of the tube system.